

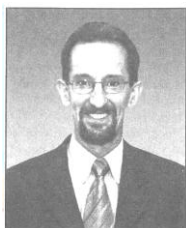
# The Maryland Numismatist



## Maryland's Indian Peace Map Medal



Above is a portion of William Blaeu's 1630 Map of the Chesapeake Bay area, with north facing to the right. It closely matches the detail of the map seen on the reverse of the Betts-35 seen at right. The arrow on the Bleau map shows the approximate location of the Saint Mary's settlement.



**Mark Borckardt to  
speak in Baltimore  
Friday, June 18 2PM  
Room 301**

**Summer, 2010 Volume 38 – No. 2**

**The  
Maryland  
State  
Numismatic  
Association,  
Inc.**



The *MARYLAND NUMISMATIST* is the quarterly publication of MSNA and is distributed to all members in good standing without additional cost.

\*\*\*\*\*

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## President's Message

This issue of the *Maryland Numismatist* heralds our Distinguished Lecturer presentation at the June 18–20 Whitman Coin Expo in Baltimore, Maryland. We are pleased and honored to have Mark Borckardt as our second speaker in the MSNA Distinguished Lecturer Series.



Borckardt, one of the country's outstanding numismatic scholars and researchers, is speaking on *Sixty Minutes at the First Mint*. This exceptional lecture and discussion is surely worth the time and trouble it takes to get to the event. I encourage our member clubs and membership in general to mark their calendars and do any other planning required to make the trip to Baltimore. You can find more detailed information on our lecturer and his enlightening talk in this issue.

Over the past few months, MSNA has made significant strides towards establishing our presence on the world-wide-web Internet. In March, we registered our domain name and obtained web-hosting support services. In April, the MSNA Executive Board reviewed a prototype of the MSNA website. If the review consensus had to be summed up in a single word by the entire MSNA Board, “impressive” would be a good fit. Our next step is to further massage the prototype website and enhance the design, content, and functionality. Within a few weeks, we will launch [www.MDStateNumisAssn.org](http://www.MDStateNumisAssn.org).

Shortly after launching the website, I intend on soliciting user comments and input from our member clubs. Our desire and stated goal is to field a MSNA website that all will find useful and inspiring—and one our member clubs and individual members will find beneficial and rewarding. I’m confident we are just a few mouse clicks away from obtaining that goal. I will keep you posted on future progress and needs. There are many thanks to be given already for all those who have contributed time and effort to this important 2010 initiative and goal.

I leave you to a nice read of the remainder of this issue. I hope to see many of you at the Distinguished Lecturer Series event and coin show in Baltimore.

Planned for upcoming issues:

Autumn 2010 — Calendar Medals

Winter 2010 — Baltimore Elongated Cents

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## "Sixty Minutes at the First Mint"

### Lecture by Mark Borckardt

The Maryland State Numismatic Association (MSNA), in conjunction with the Whitman Coin & Collectibles Baltimore Expo, is pleased to present its second speaker in the MSNA Distinguished Lecturer Series: Mark Borckardt, one of the country's outstanding numismatic scholars and researchers. His talk, entitled "Sixty Minutes at the First Mint", will be presented at 2 PM on Friday, June 18, 2010 at the Baltimore Convention Center, room 301.

Mark was a member of the team that authenticated and hence rediscovered the fifth 1913 Liberty Head nickel in Baltimore in 2003. He has been a professional numismatic researcher and cataloguer for more than twenty years and has been involved as a coin dealer for almost forty years. He is now senior cataloguer of U.S. coins at Heritage Auctions.

Mark is one of the noted scholars in early American coppers. He edited Walter Breen's *Encyclopedia of Early United States Cents 1793-1814*, for which he received the Early American Coppers (EAC) Literary Award and the Numismatic Literary Guild's (NLG) Book of the Year award. He has been appointed historian of the EAC Society and is a thirty-year member of EAC.

Mark has served for a number of years as a contributor to the Red Book and published a number of articles in the numismatic literature appearing in such sources as *The Numismatist*, *Penny Wise*, *Rare Coin Review*, *Heritage Magazine*, and *Coin World*. He has co-authored or contributed to several additional books including *Million Dollar Nickels*.

Mark also has an interest in genealogy, having traced his own family roots back 13 generations to the 1640s in New Jersey, and he has bowled a number of perfect 300 games.

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at the Whitman Coin & Collectibles Baltimore Expo  
in the Baltimore Convention Center, room 301



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# Maryland's Indian Peace Map Medal

by Tony Lopez

*This article first appeared in the Medal Collector's of America Advisor, May, 2009.*

A little more than a decade after their arrival on March 26, 1634, early English colonists in and around the Chesapeake Bay settlement of Saint Mary's, in the province of Maryland, faced many hardships and difficulties. Saint Mary's (or Saint Maries) is present day Saint Mary's City, Maryland, located near the confluence of the Potomac River and the Chesapeake Bay. Saint Mary's, only the fourth British settlement in North America, is considered to be the birthplace of religious tolerance in the New World.

The early Archives of Maryland reveal that the predominantly Catholic settlers dealt frequently with incursions from violent Native American Indian tribes. Among the most insidious of these were the Susquehannocks, with a strong tradition both as a warrior tribe and also as traders with the European powers, particularly the Dutch. By the summer of 1642, there was a state of war between the Provincial Maryland government at St. Mary's and the Susquehannocks, requiring the declaration and imposition of martial law.<sup>1</sup>

On June 18, 1644, concerned about rumors of ongoing negotiations for an alliance between the Susquehannock, Piscataway, and other Indian tribes against the settlement, Maryland Provincial Secretary John Lewger instructed Captain Henry Fleete to meet with the Susquehannock agents for the hopeful purpose of negotiating peace.<sup>2</sup> Lewger knew he could rely upon Fleete's "*skill in the Indian language, & long conversaon & experience in the Indian affaires & yor prudence, & provident circumspection otherwise*".<sup>3</sup> Fleete was an early explorer who arrived in Maryland in 1621, was well familiar with the natives and their customs and language, and had actually negotiated with the Yoacomaco tribe for the purchase of the lands where the St. Mary's settlement was established.

Captain Fleete was directed to arrive with a large armed contingency: "*take vp wth you a convenient strength of English well armed & pvided,*



to the number of twenty at the lest”.<sup>4</sup> Fleete’s instructions for negotiation were fairly specific and, in addition to securing a peace agreement, they included arranging for the exchange and use of hostages as interpreters, and also the recovery of weapons, including artillery or cannon that had been taken by the Indians: “for restoring as much as you can gett of the armes & other goods lost or left in our last march vpon them, at least the two feild peices.”<sup>5</sup>

Secretary Lewger was realistic, however, and given the longstanding hostilities between the early Marylanders and the Susquehannocks, left Captain Fleete the option of resorting to force and slaughtering the Indians if necessary: “If you shall not think best to treat [treaty] or truce wth them you are to vse all law full & discreet eanes [means] you can to pillage, or take them, or (if it shall seeme best to kill them; and to break off all league & treaty betweene them & our confederates; and to terrifie our confederates & specially such as you shall note most bold & active that way from leaguings or treating with the common enemy afore or against our liking or consent, and the pascatowayes without the authority or consent of their quecne [Queen or Chief] residing here.”<sup>6</sup>

Captain Fleete was apparently successful at negotiating with the Susquehannocks, and as a symbol of trust he presented to the Susquehannocks two important instruments of peace; a written “passport” for safe passage, and an accompanying “Maryland medal”, suspended from a black and yellow ribbon. The passport was signed by Deputy Governor Giles Brent, with the apparent authority of Lord Calvert, and read as follows:

“Cecilius &c. to all inhabitants of Province &c. I doe hereby signifie & declare vnto you, that I have promised & vndertaken to the Indian bearer or bearers hereof of the sesquisahanow nation, not exceeding 3. in number, & repair in good manner from the Sesquisahanow ffort to my Leiutenant Grall [Lieutenant General] , or some of my Counsell at Kent, or St maries vpon any publike treaty message safe & free passage too & fro through my province without any harme or molestation of any the English, And therefore I require all & every of you vpon sight hereof not to doe any thing to the violating of the said publike faith given vnto them vpon the vtmost pill of such punishmt as by martiall law may be inflicted vpon the contemnrs or violaters hereof Given at St maries this 18. June 1644. witnesse Giles Brent &c.”<sup>7</sup>

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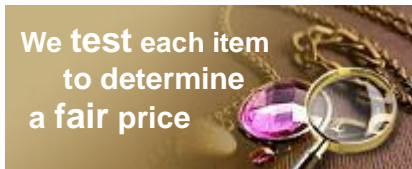
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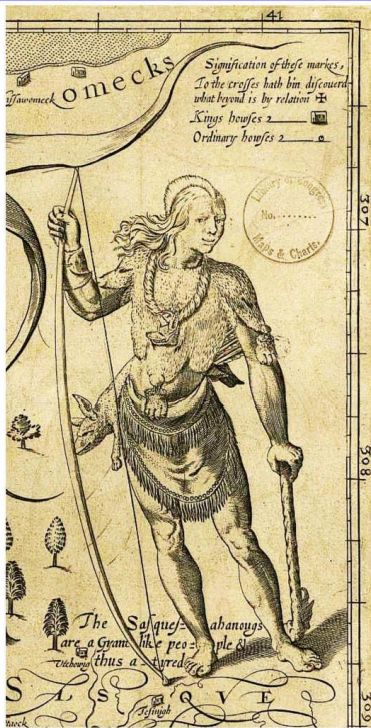
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This engraving of a Susquehannock Warrior appears in the upper left hand corner of a map of Virginia designed by Captain John Smith in 1612.

Shortly following Fleete's successful pilgrimage for peace, John Lewger was condemned and suspended from his position as Secretary for arranging for peace with the Susquehannock "enemies" without any apparent or express authority.<sup>8</sup> Lewger was apparently soon forgiven; and afterwards became the Attorney General of the Maryland Province.

The medal and passport given to the Susquehannocks by Fleete appear to have retained their important standing, however. Eight years later, on July 5, 1652, a formal peace treaty was entered into between the Susquehannocks and the Marylanders.<sup>9</sup> Under the Articles of Peace and Friendship, Section 4, it states "*That vpon any occasion of buisness to the English, or any Messadge or the like, the Indians shall come by Water and not by land, That*

*there shall not be aboue Eight or ten at the most at one tyme, And that they bring with them the token given them by the English for that purpose, by which they may be knowen and entertained.*"<sup>10</sup>

Over two decades later, by 1675, the Susquehannock people had become decimated by a smallpox epidemic and attacks by the enemy Seneca tribe. At the same time, the colonists in both Maryland and Virginia were being victimized by roving bands of attacking Indians. A number of white settlers had been murdered by the Indians and the Susquehannocks had been blamed by the Virginians for the slaughter.<sup>11</sup>

In September of 1675,<sup>12</sup> a Virginia force commanded by Colonel John Washington (the great-grandfather of George Washington) joined with a group of Maryland troops under Major Thomas Truman (reputed to be a relative of Harry S Truman) to meet with the Susquehannocks at an old Indian fort in southern Maryland where the tribe had resettled following all of their difficulties. A group of Susquehannock Chiefs came out to

meet with the white soldiers and address the accusations of the Virginians. The Susquehannock Chiefs implicated the Senecas in the offenses against the settlers, and in order to prove their innocence, as well as their longstanding alliance and friendship with the English, presented the British officers with both the original written passport from Governor Calvert and the Maryland medal. The medal was still attached to its black and yellow ribbon which it had when originally presented to them over thirty years earlier.<sup>13</sup>

The Virginians, impassioned and infuriated by the actions of the Indians, could not be controlled. They ignored these symbols of peace and the claims of innocence by the Susquehannocks. Seizing five of the Susquehannock Chiefs, they proceeded to slaughter them with their own tomahawks. The Susquehannocks had felt certain of their *“safe & free passage too & fro through my province without any harme or molestation of any the English”* as promised by the presentation of these symbols of peace, and this murderous breach led to a great distrust—and ultimately war between the Susquehannocks and the colonists.<sup>14</sup>

Major Truman was impeached and his inaction in stopping the murders by the Virginians resulted in his conviction and suspension for the death of the Susquehannock Chiefs.<sup>15</sup> The Maryland Assembly eventually overturned the finding.<sup>16</sup>

Following the massacre, the enraged Susquehannocks held steadfast in the face of attacks from colonial forces, but ultimately were forced to abandon their fort in secret. They headed south towards Virginia, creating havoc along the way for any white settlers they encountered. The mayhem and destruction the Indians sowed as they moved south created an overall state of disarray, and led to Nathaniel Bacon's Virginia Rebellion and the temporary overthrow of the Governor of Virginia, William Berkeley. Ultimately, and tragically, these events led to the death of the entire Susquehannock Nation and their extinction as a people.<sup>17</sup>

On November 30, 1675, Lord Baltimore Cecil Calvert passed away. His successor was his son Charles, who was in Maryland at the time. Charles Calvert soon found it necessary to travel to England. During this same period of great unrest, the Piscataway and Mattawoman Indians lent assistance to the colonists. In retribution they were targeted by the

warring Indian tribes and became dependent upon the protection of the English troops for their safety.

Maquata, King of the Mattawoman tribe, was fearful of reprisals from their common enemy, the Matchoaticke tribe, and was further concerned about the pending departure of Charles Calvert to England. On June 16, 1676, Maquata appeared before the Counsel of Maryland to express these concerns. In appreciation of his loyalty and friendship, it was agreed by the Maryland Counsel that twenty soldiers would be assigned to protect the Mattawoman King.<sup>18</sup>

In addition to providing for the safety of Maquata and the Mattawoman people, the Maryland Archives reveal that on that same date, *“hereupon as a mark of his Lordships kindness, and a pledge of friendship, his said Lordship gave onto the King of Mattawoman a medal, with the effigies of his Right Honorable Cecilius, His Lordship’s father lately deceased on the one side, and a map of Maryland on the other side with a black and yellow ribbon.”*<sup>19</sup>

Today, Over 325 years later, if you happen to be driving along the Crain Highway (MD-301) in Southern Maryland, you will come across a Historical Marker placed there in the 1930’s, commemorating this event. The white marker with black lettering mistakenly contains a 1670 (vs. a correct 1676) date, and reads:

### **MATTAWOMAN RUN CHARLES AND PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTIES**

---

**NAMED FOR THE MATTAWOMAN INDIANS WHO HAD A FORT AND TOWN IN THIS LOCALITY. IN 1670 GOVERNOR CHARLES CALVERT PRESENTED TO THEIR KING, MAQUATA, A MEDAL WITH THE LIKENESS OF HIS FATHER, CECILIUS, SECOND LORD BALTIMORE, ON ONE SIDE AND A MAP OF MARYLAND ON THE OTHER.**

In C. Wyllys Betts *American Colonial History Illustrated by Contemporary Medals*, Betts lists three “Maryland Settled” medals, catalogued as Betts 34, 35, and 36.<sup>20</sup> All three of these medals are exceedingly rare and are greatly sought by collectors of the Betts medal

series. Now this medal will be added as certainly the earliest, and perhaps the most significant of the Indian peace medals for collectors and researchers of these historic relics.

The subject of this article, the first Indian peace medal, the Maryland “map” medal, originally presented to the Susquehannocks in 1644, is described and listed as Betts-35.<sup>21</sup> Close examination of the map of Maryland on the reverse of the medal reveals that the direction north faces to the right – and that the shield on the map is actually located near the colonial settlement of Saint Mary’s.<sup>22</sup> Betts and others have misinterpreted the date of the availability of maps of this region, such as the 1612 Map of Virginia by Captain John Smith, and therefore incorrectly conclude that the medal is of a later 1650’s vintage. Smith’s 1612 map also has north facing right, and features a prominent and detailed engraving of a Susquehannock Warrior in the northern portion of the map.

The closely related Betts 34 and 36 “Maryland Settled” medals are deserving of their own detailed monographs, outside of the purview of this article. The Archives of Maryland do indicate that the Betts 34 Calvert-Arundel portrait medal was used by the officers and leaders of the Maryland Colony as a sign of provincial status or office. The Betts 36 medal closely matches the size, artistic style, and texture of the Betts 34 medal, with six Indian arrows in a ribbon on the obverse and a central blank reverse for engraving. There is only one known example, stated by Betts to have been in the collection of Sir W. Eden, who was an heir of the Calvert Family. That same medal is the now in the collection of the Maryland Historical Society. I currently am of the strong opinion and reasonable conclusion that the unique Betts 36 was a discarded pattern originally designed for use with the Indians in the Maryland settlement, but thus far lack evidence to prove the conjecture.

An example of Betts-35 was offered as Lot #688 in the January 2006 Stacks Sale of the John J. Ford collection, where it realized \$69,000.<sup>23</sup> While it is a seemingly hefty sum for a historic medal, with this medal now clearly established as the first Indian peace medal, it becomes a virtually priceless piece of colonial American history, a relic of the very earliest interactions between the Europeans and the Native Americans in the New World.

An example of Betts-35 is also included in the collection of the Maryland Historical Society<sup>24</sup> along with the other two Betts Maryland medals, each acquired at different times. All these medals were authenticated at the time of the 2008 Baltimore ANA show when I visited the Maryland Historical Society along with colonial medal experts, researchers, and authors Dr. George Fuld, Dr. David Mennell, and Barry Tayman. The three medals were subsequently pictured in the *MCA Advisory*, and in the April 2009 *MCA Advisory*, Dr. George Fuld revealed his discovery of the original receipt for the Society's Betts-35 Maryland map medal. I have not yet taken a census of the examples extant of the Maryland map Indian peace medal, but know of only these two medals. If any readers are aware of other examples, please let me know, as my research on the medals continues.

The historic legacy of Indian peace medals is mixed with blood and treachery. The first Indian peace medal was presented as a symbol of peace and safe passage only a decade after the establishment of the first settlement in Maryland, when there were only a few hundred European inhabitants in the entire geographical area of modern-day Maryland; today populated by almost six million people. Thirty years later, that same first Indian peace medal became a critical element in a series of tragic historic events, eventually leading to the catastrophic extermination of an entire Native American people, the Susquehannocks, along with their history and culture.

The Indian peace medals which were presented to the native North Americans over the centuries that followed shared the heritage and tradition of the very first one: a duplicitous talisman, both peace medal and war medal, a symbol of friendship and alliance and, in the end, deceit and betrayal.

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<sup>1</sup> *Archives of Maryland, Proceedings of the Council of Maryland, 1636-1647*. Volume 3, Page 103, Page 106.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* Volume 3, Page 148.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* This passage and others in the article are written in their original form as recorded in the Archives of Maryland. Standard forms of spelling were not established until the 19<sup>th</sup> century beginning with the 1828 publication of Noah Webster's *American Dictionary of the English Language*. In the seventeenth century spelling was not conventional and phonetic spelling was commonly used as seen in these records.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.* Volume 3, Page 149

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.* Volume 3, Page 150.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.* [Passport to Indians]. Volume 3, Page 150.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.* [Suspension of Lewger]. Volume 3, Page 151.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.* *Proceedings of the Council of Maryland, 1648-1655.* Volume 3, Page 277.

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.* Volume 3, Page 278.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.* *Proceedings of the Council of Maryland, 1671-1681.* Volume 15, Preface Page vii.

<sup>12</sup> The Archives of Maryland are unclear and contradictory as to the exact date; it may have occurred as early as the spring of 1675.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>14</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>15</sup> *Ibid.* *Proceedings and Acts of the General Assembly, April 1666-June 1676.* Volume 2, Page 475-476 et.al.

<sup>16</sup> *Ibid.* Volume 2, Page 500-501

<sup>17</sup> *Ibid.* Page ix.

<sup>18</sup> *Ibid.* *Proceedings of the Council of Maryland, 1675-1676.* Volume 15, Page 90.

<sup>19</sup> *Ibid.* Volume 15, Page 91. The passage has been amended for clarification, and is not written in its exact form.

<sup>20</sup> C. Wylls Betts, *American Colonial History Illustrated by Contemporary Medals* (Quarterman Publications, Boston, 1972. Originally published 1894) Page 20-21.

<sup>21</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>22</sup> The detail on the map most closely matches that shown on a 1630 William Blaeu map of the Chesapeake Bay area of Virginia and Maryland, entitled *NOVA VIRGINIÆ TABULA*. On Blaeu's map, north also faces to the right.

<sup>23</sup> Michel Hodder, John J. Ford, Jr. *Collection, Part XIII - Betts Medals -Part 1* (Stacks Auction, January 16, 2006) In the Description of the Betts 35 Maryland map medal, it inaccurately dates the medal to the 1650's, and also incorrectly states that the shield on the medal is placed at the location of Baltimore.

<sup>24</sup> The Maryland Historical Society's example measures 32.8mm by 36.2mm, and weighs 13.19 Grams.





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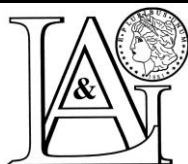
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## ANA Reorganization

The American Numismatic Association has gone back to the region and district hierarchical organization of representatives. Club Representatives will report to District Delegates who, in turn, will report to Regional Coordinators. The new District Delegate for Maryland is MSNA Past President Donald Curtis. The new Regional Coordinator for Maryland, DC, Delaware, Virginia, and West Virginia is MSNA's Treasurer and Editor Simcha Kuritzky.

District Delegates and Regional Coordinators now have an on-line list serve to handle questions and requests. The hottest topic under discussion is the new dues structure for clubs. The ANA realized there was a problem when the number of members of ANA member clubs, who were not themselves members of the ANA, exceeded the number of ANA members. This, coupled with new fiscal restraint (some would say responsibility), has led to a big push to get active numismatists as members of the ANA. Dues were raised from \$35/year for clubs to \$75/year, but a rebate of \$5 each is given for each ANA member who is a member of the club. This, of course, is more of a benefit to larger clubs who could actually end up paying less in dues. Smaller clubs in remote locations will end up paying more, and many may simply stop being members. Those of us in urban, densely populated and numismatically active areas such as Maryland have the opposite problem: if someone is a member of multiple clubs, which one gets the benefit? The ANA will allow each member to designate the club that receives the benefit, and if someone is a life member of the ANA, they get to designate two beneficiaries. Of course, many of the clubs in Maryland were co-sponsors of ANA Conventions in the past and so are life members of the ANA and don't need this assistance. These include MSNA, BCC, CCC, MCCC, HCH and WNS (and probably others). Maryland clubs that are not ANA life members and want to attract ANA members to reduce their dues, or ANA members who want to help out local clubs, should contact Donald Curtis ([donald.l.curtis@us.army.mil](mailto:donald.l.curtis@us.army.mil)). One proposal is that the ANA offer a reduced rate for clubs that agree not to get the magazine *The Numismatist* in printed form, since that costs \$36/year to produce and mail. They would keep the other benefits, including access by mail to a world-class numismatic library (with DVDs for club programs), discount rates for various kinds of insurance

including coin collection insurance, the ability to exhibit at ANA conventions, and free admission to the ANA summer convention.

On the subject of conventions, the ANA will hold the summer convention each year in Chicago instead of moving around (after the 2012 Philadelphia convention). It will now run Tuesday-Saturday, ending with the banquet, and PNG will hold the official pre-show the previous Saturday-Monday. The ANA is also planning to add a third, autumn convention to their schedule starting October 13-15, 2011 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (about a 5 hour drive from Baltimore).

## Local News



Did you know that George Washington's farewell address (1795) and the Battle of Fort Erie (1814) both occurred on September 17? If you knew Jack Pryor, you did. John (Jack) Pryor was born on September 17, 1927 and passed away from heart failure on March 18, 2010.

He served as MSNA Vice President from June, 1989-June, 1991 and President from June, 1991-July, 1993. In addition to collecting anything numismatic related to September 17 (and commissioning several elongateds, a selection of which appear below), he also collected British coinage of James II. He was active in the Baltimore Coin Club.



Dealer and MSNA member Les White's shop was burgled the evening of May 9-10. A large quantity of U.S. small size notes were stolen, most notably a series 1934 \$1000 note with serial number G00013589A, and also some 1899 and 1923 large-size notes. If you see anyone trying to sell these, please email him at [les.white.1@juno.com](mailto:les.white.1@juno.com).

MSNA life member Clarence Schmitt wrote to the editor in response to the zodiac column describing the swastika as an old good luck symbol.

He said that he served with the 45<sup>th</sup> Division in World War Two. It was founded as a native American (Indian) unit and originally used a yellow swastika on a red background as their ensign. In 1939, the ensign was changed to a stylized Thunderbird (rain bringer).

The Washington Numismatic Society (WNS) April meeting featured a talk by Dr. Martin Solano on the state of the coin hobby. On June 15, WNS will hold their semi-annual pot-luck dinner from 7-9 PM. All are invited to attend and bring something to share. See their web site for directions.

Jim Hirtle gave a talk on "The Wide-Ranging Grade of Very Fine" at the Catonsville Coin Club's April meeting. In May, MSNA Secretary Bryce Doxzon gave a presentation called "Three Men Lost", about the losing candidates in the 1860 presidential election and their political medals. In June, CCC will issue a wooden nickel commemorating the bicentennial of Catonsville. They are planning a trip to the BEP during the summer.

Dealer and MSNA member Julian Leidman spoke on the state of the numismatic hobby at the Montgomery County Coin Club's (MCCC) April 13 meeting. Wayne Wilcox, who assisted the Smithsonian Institution with cataloging their U.S. paper money collection, spoke on "National Bank Notes: America's Hometown Currency" at MCCC's May 11 meeting, and showed notes from his hometown of Mitchell, SD.

The Baltimore Coin Club held their annual dinner March 18 at Pappas Restaurant where Ted Rosenberg spoke on "Road Wars: The Fight Between the Community and Highway Planners on Baltimore's West Side." BCC also re-elected their current officers and made a donation to the Little Sisters of the Poor in memory of life member Jack Pryor.

## \$50 Prize Money Offered for Best Article

Write an article for the Maryland Numismatist and be in the running to win \$50 in gift certificates redeemable at the November, 2011 Whitman show in Baltimore. There must be at least three authors who are published in the Winter 2010 or Spring – Autumn 2011 issues, excluding the editor, who is not eligible. All articles (even multiples by the same author) will be entered automatically, and will be judged for quality by a panel chosen by the MSNA board.

**OCEAN CITY COIN and CURRENCY SHOW**  
**Ocean City (Roland E. Powell) Convention Center**  
**4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, Maryland**  
**October 2 & 3, 2010**

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# What's Your Sign?

## Part Six: Decagonal Elephant Medals

by Simcha Kuritzky, NLG

The Great Depression gave birth to a large number of amulets. One unusual set has a 1934 copyright. These medals are minted on bronze ten-sided planchets. The common side (I'll call it the reverse) has an elephant with upraised trunk with a tiny horseshoe above, five-sided star on the left and four-leaf clover on the right. The use of an elephant with a raised trunk is peculiar, since it's not associated with the zodiac. However, it is a popular good luck symbol. On the scroll below is the name of the planet that rules the sign. This being the 1930s, they added the new planets as shown in the chart below.

### Zodiac Signs:

♈	Aries	Ram
♉	Taurus	Bull
♊	Gemini	Twins
♋	Cancer	Crab
♌	Leo	Lion
♍	Virgo	Virgin
♎	Libra	Scales
♏	Scorpio	Scorpion
♐	Sagittarius	Archer
♑	Capricorn	Goat-fish
♒	Aquarius	Water-bearer
♓	Pisces	Fish

### Associated Planets:

♂	Mars
♀	Venus
☿	Mercury
☾	Moon
☼	Sun
☿	Mercury
♀	Venus
♇	Pluto
♃	Jupiter
♄	Saturn
♅	Uranus
♆	Neptune

The obverse shows a large, detailed picture of the sign, with the Latin name on a scroll below. A shining sun and crescent moon appear above, though the exact location varies on the different medals. The zodiac sign's sigil also appears. At the very bottom is the inscription E.K.L. © 1934.


I have located three such medals in two different forms. The Cancer medal is 32mm, gilded with a loop and has a blank reverse. It was intended to be worn on a necklace. The Leo and Pisces medals are 34mm; the Leo medal was found in the card as shown below (the medal

is inserted in the card; that's not a picture of the medal). Presumably all two-sided medals were sold in a similar card but I've only located the Leo card.



### A Horoscopic Memento and Zodiacal Medallion

**LEO**



**JULY 24TH TO AUGUST 23RD**  
SUN — FIFTH HOUSE  
BIRTH STONES: Sardonyx,  
Topaz, Ruby and Amber. NATAL FLOWER: Poppy.  
COLOR: Gold and Orange.

**LEO**

*Advantages:* Idealism, Exuberance, Friendliness,  
Love, Intuition, Strength of Purpose.  
*Faults:* Indolence, Lack of reason for many actions,  
Instinctive Judgment, Too Decided Opinions.  
*Requirements:* Self-restraint, Activity, Modified  
Idealism, Concentrated Analysis.

*Signs are classified according to constitutions, and  
are separated as follows:*

MOVABLE SIGNS:	FLEXED SIGNS:	FIXED SIGNS:
Aries	Gemini	Taurus
Cancer	Virgo	Leo
Libra	Sagittarius	Scorpio
Capricornus	Pisces	Acquarius

## Montgomery County Coin Club Golden Anniversary Medal Available



In celebration of their golden anniversary, the Montgomery County Coin Club (MCCC) took fifty uniface pewter medals (originally produced along with MSNA's medal for the 2003 ANA Convention in Baltimore), gilded them, and attached a commemorative placard like the one shown above. Each medal is individually numbered. A twenty-page illustrated booklet detailing the club's history was also produced.

The obverse of the medal includes a relief image taken from an actual Maryland Tercentenary half dollar of 1934 with the inscription MONTGOMERY COUNTY COIN CLUB \* FOUNDED 1959 \*. The reverse placard has Celebrating 50 Years with the number below in large script, and the 0 of 50 has the same lettering as on the obverse side around a Lincoln Memorial cent reverse (since the club was founded the same year the Memorial reverse debuted).

These medals and booklets are now available to the public. The medal (with one free booklet) costs only \$20, while the booklet by itself is \$2. Members pay only \$15 for a medal and \$1.50 for a booklet. Member dues are \$8 per year. The club will attempt to honor requests for a particular medal number, though numbers 1 through 15 plus some others have already been sold. Postage is \$1 for just the booklet or \$5 for medals, unless you arrange to pick them up at a MCCC or MSNA Board meeting. Please make out checks to MCCC and mail them to: P. O. Box 13504, Silver Spring, MD 20911-3504 or contact the editor.





**Maryland State Numismatic  
Association, Inc.  
P. O. Box 13504  
Silver Spring, MD 20911-3504**

*Dedicated to attaining knowledge and fulfillment in Numismatics*

## Membership Application/Renewal

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ MSNA #: \_\_\_\_\_ (for renewal)

I hereby apply for membership/renewal in the Maryland State Numismatic Association, Inc., subject to its constitution & by-laws. (Please Print)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Tax-deductible donation to MSNA \$ \_\_\_\_\_

If ANA member, please give us the ANA Number \_\_\_\_\_

*The items below are only requested for original membership application:*

Numismatic specialties: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Numismatic Affiliations: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor No. 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor No. 2: \_\_\_\_\_

For junior membership please include:

Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Fee of \$15 (club), \$10 (individual) or \$2 (under 18) must accompany this form for calendar year dues (\$5 individual after August 1). Life member upgrades are: \$200 (age 50 & under), \$125 (51-65), \$75 (66 & over). Pay by check or PayPal (direct bank transfer or e-check only as a gift to Simcha.Kuritzky@cgifederal.com).

# Maryland Coin Show Dates

All shows have free admission. Only the Whitman show does not have free parking.

**6 June – Baltimore Area Numismatic Coalition Show**, Holiday Inn, 1100 Cromwell Bridge Road, Towson; 9-4.

**11-12 June – Frederick Coin & Currency Show**, Grange Hall, 1 South 8th Alley, New Market, MD; 9:30-4:30.

**17-20 June – Whitman Baltimore Coin & Currency Convention**, Baltimore Convention Center, 1 West Pratt Street; Thu 2-6, Fri-Sat 10-6, Sun. 10-3. MSNA Distinguished Lecturer June 18 at 2 PM.

**20 June–Baltimore Friendly Monthly Stamp & Coin Show**, Pikesville Hilton, 1726 Reisterstown Road, (I-695 exit 20) Pikesville; 10-4.

**27 June – Annapolis Coin and Currency Show**, Knights of Columbus Hall, 2590 Solomon's Island Road (Route 2), Edgewater; 9-4:30.

**25 July–Baltimore Friendly Monthly Stamp & Coin Show**, Pikesville Hilton, 1726 Reisterstown Road, (I-695 exit 20) Pikesville; 10-4.

**15 Aug.–Baltimore Friendly Monthly Stamp & Coin Show**, Pikesville Hilton, 1726 Reisterstown Road, (I-695 exit 20) Pikesville; 10-4.

**4-5 Sept. Interstate Coin Show, Grand Venice Hotel**, 431 Dual Highway, Hagerstown, MD. Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4.

**19 Sept. – Annapolis Coin and Currency Show**, Knights of Columbus Hall, 2590 Solomon's Island Road (Route 2), Edgewater; 9-4:30.

**19 Sep.–Baltimore Friendly Monthly Stamp & Coin Show**, Pikesville Hilton, 1726 Reisterstown Road, (I-695 exit 20) Pikesville; 10-4.

**26 Sept. – Baltimore Area Numismatic Coalition Show**, Holiday Inn, 1100 Cromwell Bridge Road, Towson; 9-4.

**2-3 Oct. – CEO Coins, Currency & Treasurers Ocean City Show**, Ocean City (Roland E. Powell) Convention Center, 4001 Ocean Highway & 40<sup>th</sup> Street, Ocean City; Fri.-Sat. 9-6; Sun. 9-4.

**2 Oct. – Associated Coin Clubs**, Middle River Recreation Center, Compass Road and Martin Blvd., 10-3.

**17 Oct. – Cambridge Coin Show**, American Legion Post 91 Sunburst Highway (Route 50), Cambridge, MD 11-5.

# MEMBER CLUBS IN GOOD STANDING (\* denotes charter)

Baltimore Area Numismatic Coalition P. O. Box 3273 Baltimore, MD 21228-0273	Baltimore Coin Club * P. O. Box 43681 Baltimore, MD 21236-0681 (410) 284-8382	Bowie Coin Club P. O. Box 913 Bowie, MD 20718-0913 bowiecoinclub.com
Belmar Coin Club * P. O. Box 273 Fallston, MD 21047	Cambridge Coin Club P. O. Box 932 Cambridge, MD 21613 umesgrad@fastol.com	Harford Coin Huskers* P. O. Box 2 Fork, MD 21051
Carroll Co. Coin Club* c/o Lester A. White 10 West Main Street Westminster, MD 21157 Les.white.1@juno.com	Catonsville Coin Club * P. O. Box 3273 Baltimore, MD 21228-0273 Bryce.Doxzon@us.army.mil	Colonial Coin Club * P. O. Box 884 Annapolis, MD 21401
Frederick County Coin Club P. O. Box 1164 Frederick, MD 21702 ccplants@ufl.edu	Maryland Token & Medal Society P. O. Box 644 Gambrills, MD 21054	St. Maries Coin Club P. O. Box 365 Lusby, MD 20657 smcc.anacclubs.org
Middle River Coin Club * c/o Baltimore County Dept. of Recreation & Parks Victory Villa Community Ctr 404 Compass Road Baltimore, MD 21220	Montgomery County Coin Club P. O. Box 13504 Silver Spring, MD 20901 montgomerycoinclub.org	Salisbury Coin Club * c/o George Pletha, Jr. 11437 Hudson White Road Deal Island, MD 21821-1143
Interstate Coin Club P. O. Box 1901 Hagerstown, MD 21742	Washington Numismatic Society P. O. Box 9413 Washington, DC 20016 wns.anacclubs.org aacoinman@aol.coim	Maryland Numismatic Society P. O. Box 681 Riderwood, MD 21139
South Glen Burnie Coin Club c/o Darrel King 8017 Clark Station Road Severn, MD 21144 sgbcc.com		Western Maryland Coin Club* 662 Greene Street, Suite 2 Cumberland, MD 21502

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